

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lacing system for a shoe comprising:

- (a) at least one lace loop;
- (b) at least three lace segments formed from said at least one lace loop, said at least three lace segments having at least three top segments, at least three middle segments, and at least two bottom segments;
- (c) an adjustable opening defined by first side, a second side, a top, and a bottom; wherein said adjustable opening has an unfastened position and a fastened position;
- (d) a moveable fastener, wherein said at least three top segments extend from said movable fastener to said first side;
- (e) and wherein said at least three middle segments extend said first side to said second side;
- (f) a gap at said top of said adjustable opening, said gap formed by one segment of said at least three middle segments that traverses diagonally downward from said first side to said second side, and said second side of said adjustable opening;
- (g) and wherein, in said fastened position, said at least three top segments cover said gap and cross over at least one of said at least three middle segments in said adjustable opening;
- (h) and wherein said at least two bottom segments extend from said second side to said first side again, thereby traversing said adjustable opening, and criss-crossing at least one of said at least three middle segments in said adjustable opening;
- (i) a fixed fastener disposed on said shoe, whereby pulling said movable fastener towards said fixed fastener causes contraction of substantially all of said adjustable opening; and
- (j) said fixed fastener is engagable with said movable fastener to maintain said contraction of said adjustable opening in said fastened position.

2. A lacing system according to claim 1, wherein one of said movable fastener and

fixed fastener includes locking tape.

3. A lacing system according to claim 1, wherein one of said movable fastener and said fixed fastener includes a hook.

4. A lacing system according to claim 1, wherein one of said movable fastener and said fixed fastener includes teeth.

5. A lacing system for a shoe comprising:

(a) at least one lace loop;

(b) said at least one lace loop forming a first set of at least two lace segments having first top segments, first middle segments, and first bottom segments, and a second set of at least two lace segments having second top segments, second middle segments, and second bottom segments;

(c) an adjustable opening defined by first side, a second side, a top, and a bottom; said adjustable opening having a fastened position and an unfastened position;

(d) a first movable fastener, wherein said first top segments extend from said first movable fastener to said first side;

(e) a second movable fastener, wherein said second top segments extend from said second movable fastener to said second side;

(f) and wherein said first middle segments extend from said first side to said second side traversing said adjustable opening;

(g) and wherein said second middle segments extend from said second side to said first side traversing said adjustable opening;

(h) and wherein said first bottom segments extend from said second side, traversing said adjustable opening towards said first side again;

(i) and wherein said second bottom segments extend from said first side, traversing said adjustable opening, towards said second side again;

(j) a gap, formed at said top of said adjustable opening, by one segment of of said first middle segments, one segment of said second middle segments, said first side, and said second side, when in said unfastened position;

(k) at least one of said first top segments and said second top segments cover said gap, in said fastened position;

(l) whereby pulling on said first movable fastener and pulling on said second movable fastener causes contraction of substantially all of said adjustable opening; and

(m) said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener are engagable to maintain said contraction of said adjustable opening in said fastened position.

6. A lacing system according to claim 5, wherein at least one of said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener includes locking tape.

7. A lacing system according to claim 5, wherein at least one of said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener includes a cord-lock.

8. A lacing system according to claim 5, wherein at least one of said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener engages with a hook.

9. A lacing system according to claim 5, wherein said first movable fastener engages with said second fastener in said fastened position.

10. A lacing system according to claim 9, further including at least one fixed fastener disposed on said shoe, wherein said first movable fastener engages with said at least one fixed fastener in said fastened position.

11. A lacing system for an article of manufacture comprising:

- (a) at least one lace loop;
- (b) at least three lace segments formed from said at least one lace loop, said at least three lace segments having at least three top segments, at least three middle segments, and at least two bottom segments;
- (c) an adjustable opening defined by first side, a second side, a top, and a bottom; wherein said adjustable opening has an unfastened position and a fastened position;
- (d) a moveable fastener, wherein said at least three top segments extend from said movable fastener to said first side;
- (e) and wherein said at least three middle segments extend said first side to said second side;
- (f) a gap at said top of said adjustable opening, said gap formed by one segment of said at least three middle segments that traverses diagonally downward from said first side to said second side, and said second side of said adjustable opening;
- (g) and wherein, in said fastened position, said at least three top segments cover said gap and cross over at least one of said at least three middle segments in said adjustable opening;
- (h) and wherein said at least two bottom segments extend from said second side to said first side again, thereby traversing said adjustable opening, and criss-crossing at least one of said at least three middle segments in said adjustable opening;
- (i) a fixed fastener disposed on said article of manufacture, whereby pulling said movable fastener towards said fixed fastener causes contraction of substantially all of said adjustable opening; and
- (j) said fixed fastener is engagable with said movable fastener to maintain said contraction of said adjustable opening in said fastened position.

12. A lacing system according to claim 11, wherein one of said movable fastener and fixed fastener includes locking tape.

13. A lacing system according to claim 11, wherein one of said movable fastener and said fixed fastener includes a hook.

14. A lacing system according to claim 11, wherein one of said movable fastener and said fixed fastener includes teeth.

15. A lacing system for an article of manufacture comprising:

(a) at least one lace loop;

(b) said at least one lace loop forming a first set of at least two lace segments having first top segments, first middle segments, and first bottom segments, and a second set of at least two lace segments having second top segments, second middle segments, and second bottom segments;

(c) an adjustable opening defined by first side, a second side, a top, and a bottom; said adjustable opening having a fastened position and an unfastened position;

(d) a first movable fastener, wherein said first top segments extend from said first movable fastener to said first side;

(e) a second movable fastener, wherein said second top segments extend from said second movable fastener to said second side;

(f) and wherein said first middle segments extend from said first side to said second side traversing said adjustable opening;

(g) and wherein said second middle segments extend from said second side to said first side traversing said adjustable opening;

(h) and wherein said first bottom segments extend from said second side, traversing said adjustable opening towards said first side again;

(i) and wherein said second bottom segments extend from said first side, traversing said adjustable opening, towards said second side again;

(j) a gap, formed at said top of said adjustable opening, by one segment of of said first middle segments, one segment of said second middle segments, said first side,

and said second side, when in said unfastened position;

(k) at least one of said first top segments and said second top segments, cover said gap, in said fastened position;

(l) whereby pulling on said first movable fastener and pulling on said second movable fastener causes contraction of substantially all of said adjustable opening; and

(m) said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener are engagable to maintain said contraction of said adjustable opening in said fastened position.

16. A lacing system according to claim 15, wherein at least one of said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener includes locking tape.

17. A lacing system according to claim 15, wherein at least one of said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener includes a cord-lock.

18. A lacing system according to claim 15, wherein at least one of said first movable fastener and said second movable fastener engages with a hook.

19. A lacing system according to claim 15, wherein said first movable fastener engages with said second fastener in said fastened position.

20. A lacing system according to claim 19, further including at least one fixed fastener disposed on said article of manufacture, wherein said first movable fastener engages with said at least one fixed fastener in said fastened position.